

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISSIPATING ENERGY IN A FUEL CELL GENERATOR SYSTEM

Abstract of Disclosure

A method and apparatus for dissipating energy in a fuel cell generator system is provided. The method comprises determining an amount of electric power to be dissipated, operating a compressor to draw electric current as required to dissipate the determined amount of electric power, and valving the compressor to reduce the delivery of gas containing oxygen to the fuel cell stack. Valving the compressor includes restricting the flow of gas containing oxygen into the compressor, as well as venting gas containing oxygen to the atmosphere. Valving the compressor also includes inefficiently operating the compressor to reduce the flow of gas containing oxygen to the fuel cell stack. Such electrical power to be dissipated may be generated from a regenerative braking system of a vehicle, or from the minimum amount of electrical power that the fuel cell system can generate.

Figures

Figure 1: A vertical line of text, possibly a page number or a reference, located on the left side of the page.